

Helmer Silt Loam 82-1D-0558 (821b-009-2)

Classification: coarse silty, mixed, frigid Andic Fragiochrept.

General Site Characteristics

Location: Benewah County, Idaho; approx. 1.5 miles east northeast of St. Maries,  
2475 feet N. & 425 feet W. of SE corner of sec. 24, T. 46N., R. 2W.

Forest:

Area: Christmas Hills

Described By/Date: Soil Conservation Service personnel on June 21 , 1982

Parent Rock/Material: loess with an ash mantle

Habitat Type: western hemlock/clintonia; western hemlock, western red cedar, grand fir,  
Douglas fir, western larch, CLUN, LIBO, HIOB, GOOB, LOOC, wintergreen.

Topography: undulating

Landform: basalt terrace

Weathering:

Formation Name:

Slope: 4 percent

Aspect: 164 degrees

Elevation: 3000 feet

Soil Depth:

Eff. Rooting Depth:

Litter Type:

Surface Rock: none

Climate: frigid, udic

Precipitation:

Erosion: none

Infiltration:

Permeability: very slow

Storage:

Drainage: mod. well

Air Temp:

Soil Temp at 20 inches:

Salt/Alkal: none

Remarks: Classification assumes that this is not medial.

Pedon Description

01 5-3 cm. Slightly decomposed needles, leaves, and twigs.

02 3-8 cm. Well decomposed organic matter with 2 cm St. Helen's ash in upper part.

A 0-8 cm. Pale brown (10YR 6/3) silt loam, brown to dark brown (10YR 4/3) moist; weak fine subangular blocky structure parting to weak very fine and fine granular structure; loose, very friable, nonsticky and slightly plastic; slightly acid pH 6.1; many very fine and fine, few medium and coarse roots; many very fine and fine, few medium tubular pores; no gravels; clear wavy boundary.

B<sub>0</sub> 8-36 cm. Light yellowish brown (10YR 6/4) silt loam, dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) moist; weak fine and medium subangular blocky structure; loose, very friable, nonsticky and slightly plastic; slightly acid pH 6.4; common very fine, fine, and medium, few coarse roots; common very fine and fine, few medium tubular pores; no gravels; clear wavy boundary.

B<sub>w</sub> 36-48 cm. Pale brown (10YR 6/3) silt loam, brown to dark brown (10YR 4/3) moist; weak fine and medium subangular blocky structure; hard, firm, slightly sticky and slightly plastic; slightly acid pH 6.3; weak very fine, fine, and medium roots; common very fine and fine, few medium tubular pores; very few thin clay films lining pores; no gravels; this horizon is not ashy; pockets of root masses and large old root channels between B<sub>s</sub> and B<sub>w</sub> approximately 12 cm in diameter; abrupt wavy boundary.

B<sub>x</sub>/E 48-76 cm. Pale brown (10YR 6/3) and very pale brown (10YR 7/3) silt loam, brown to dark brown (10YR 4/3) and brown (10YR 5/3) moist; moderate medium and coarse angular blocky structure; very hard, very firm, slightly sticky and slightly plastic; strongly acid pH 5.1; common very fine, fine, and medium roots; common very fine and fine tubular pores; few thin clay films lining ped faces and pores; few thin silt coats white (10YR 8/2) on ped faces; weak fine manganese concretions; clear wavy boundary.

E/B<sub>tx</sub> 76-97 cm. Very pale brown (10YR 7/3) and grayish brown (10YR 5/2) silt loam, brown (10YR 5/3) and grayish brown (10YR 5/2) moist; strong medium and coarse angular blocky structure; very hard, firm, slightly sticky and slightly plastic; very strongly acid pH 4.7; common very fine, fine, and medium roots; few very fine and fine tubular pores; common thin clay films lining ped faces and pores; few fine manganese concretions; mottles c23d yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) and dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/6); abrupt wavy boundary.

B<sub>t1</sub> 97-114 cm. Pale brown (10YR 6/3) silt loam, brown to dark brown (10YR 4/3) moist; strong medium and coarse angular blocky structure; very hard, very firm, sticky and slightly plastic; very strongly acid pH 4.7; few very fine, common very fine and fine roots; common very fine and fine, few medium tubular pores; common thin clay films lining ped faces and pores, few moderately thick clay films lining pores; few thin silt coats white (10YR 8/2); mottles few fine brown (10YR 5/3); clear wavy boundary.

B<sub>t2</sub> 114-152 cm. Pale brown (10YR 6/3) silt loam, brown to dark brown (10YR 4/3) moist; strong medium and coarse angular blocky structure; very hard, very firm, sticky and slightly plastic; very strongly acid pH 4.7; few very fine, common very fine and fine roots; few very fine, fine, and medium tubular pores; common thin and moderately thick clay films lining ped faces and pores, few thick clay films lining ped faces and pores; few thin silt coats white (10YR 8/2); few very fine and fine manganese concretions; no gravels.

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Date: June 1984

Sample No.	Horizon	Depth	pH paste	ECx10 <sup>3</sup>	% Water at Saturation	Available P	Sesquioxides				Spodic		
							Di-Citrate Fe	Extract Al	Pyrophosphate Fe	Extract Al			
							%						
cm		mmhos/cm		ppm									
	O1	5- 3	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS		
	O2	3- 0	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS		
1	A	0- 8	6.1	0.48	58	13.8	1.16	0.43	0.18	0.20	no		
2	B <sub>0</sub>	8- 36	6.4	0.40	58	9.6	1.37	0.32	0.06	0.13	no		
3	B <sub>w</sub>	36- 48	6.3	0.38	40	0.6	1.46	0.10	0.02	0.05	no		
4	B <sub>x</sub> /E	48- 76	5.1	0.26	36	0.9	1.61	0.09	0.03	0.06	no		
5	E/B <sub>tx</sub>	76- 97	4.7	0.30	36	1.8	1.81	0.10	0.04	0.06	no		
6	B <sub>t1</sub>	97-114	4.7	0.18	40	1.5	1.85	0.11	0.04	0.07	no		
7	B <sub>t2</sub>	114-152	4.7	0.20	37	1.8	1.93	0.11	0.05	0.08	no		
Sample No.	Exchangeable Ions				Ext. Acidity	CEC	Base	OM	UC	N	C:N	Soil	Nat pH
	Ca	Mg	Na	K	H	Saturation						Fraction	
	meq/100 gms												
	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
1	11.2	1.0	0.6	1.6	12.6	21.4	53	2.49	1.45	0.091	16	1.00	10.0
2	10.5	0.8	0.6	1.0	10.8	22.7	54	1.56	0.91	0.064	14	1.00	10.1
3	6.1	1.0	0.6	0.6	5.1	10.2	62	0.56	0.33	0.072	5	1.00	8.9
4	5.2	1.0	0.6	0.3	5.9	9.0	55	0.29	0.17	0.025	7	1.00	8.0
5	4.4	1.5	0.7	0.2	8.3	11.5	45	0.35	0.20	0.030	7	1.00	8.0
6	5.2	1.8	0.7	0.2	9.3	13.6	46	0.33	0.19	0.032	6	1.00	8.0
7	6.1	2.5	0.5	0.2	8.3	14.3	53	0.29	0.17	0.034	5	1.00	7.9

Remarks: CEC's were leached with 19% acidified NaCl.  
CEC's and nitrogens were run by steam distillation.  
Extractable cations were run on the Jarrell Ash atomic absorption.  
NS - no sample

Analysis by: Debbie Eisinger

Pedon: Helmer Silt Loam 82-ID-0558 (82ID-009-2)

Date: May 1984

Depth	Particle Size Distribution (mm)							Gravel & Stone			Textural Classes
	VCS	CS	MS	FS	VFS	TS	TSi	TC	>2 mm		
	2-1.0	1-0.5	0.5-0.25	0.25-0.1	0.1-0.05	2-0.05	0.05-0.002	<0.002	wt.	vol.	
cm	%							%			
5- 3	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS		NS
3- 0	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS		NS
0- 8	2.81	2.37	1.19	2.48	6.29	15.14	70.89	13.97	none		Silt loam
8- 36	0.40	1.15	1.00	2.28	6.68	11.50	74.53	13.97	none		Silt loam
36- 48	0.58	1.21	0.96	2.27	6.20	11.22	74.11	14.68	none		Silt loam
48- 76	0.45	1.10	0.85	1.96	5.46	9.82	76.31	13.88	none		Silt loam
76- 97	1.04	1.48	1.00	1.40	4.47	9.39	73.14	17.47	none		Silt loam
97-114	1.71	1.57	0.88	1.47	4.41	10.04	67.33	22.62	none		Silt loam
114-152	0.52	1.64	1.02	1.67	4.24	9.09	68.65	22.26	none		Silt loam

Depth	Silt Size Distribution (mm)			Water Content		Liquid	Plastic	Plastic
	CoSi	Msi	Fsi	Bulk Density	1/3	15	Limit	Limit
	0.05-0.02	0.02-0.005	0.005-0.002	Clod Core	Bar	Bar		Index
cm	%			g/cc	%		%	
5- 3					NS	NS		
3- 0					NS	NS		
0- 8					43.9	29.3		
8- 36					46.7	27.0		
36- 48					29.3	18.6		
48- 76					26.1	17.4		
76- 97					26.7	18.9		
97-114					28.1	22.4		
114-152					28.4	21.4		

Remarks: Samples were run by the centrifuge method, 5% sodium hexametaphosphate added, sonified, and carbonates were not removed.  
NS - no sample

Analysis by: Anita L. Falen